

POCAHONTAS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

"THE POCAHONTAS TIMES"

Vol. 111

- 1st. Book for writer.
- 2nd. Book for editor Times.
- 3rd. Book for P.C.H.S.
- 4th. Book for Meade Vaughn's
Family collection.

This section started June first 1976 and will deal with the Counties schools past and present. Therefore there will be more items from the paper on this years activities and many descriptions of the past one room schools and consolidated schools from two to four rooms. This section will depend on the response from former teachers and pupils - as many of these teachers are not with us now.

Glen L. Vaughan
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In searching my memory recalling events of yesterday and boyhood days in Parliation and on the Greenbrier river after an absence of close to sixty years leaves but one thought, many, many times these events have passed through my mind.

Every page is true and original in every detail as written, some items I have omitted as readers would not believe them as facts. The entire undertaking has been a time consuming and hard task. Many names have been left out but no fictitious ones replace them, or places or events added.

These pages have been deliberately held to the grade school level in phrase and composition - well below the Graduate level - to do otherwise would be an insult to those two men pictured on our State flag - a miner and a farmer - these people actually made our state, along with those at the convention - but they are the ones we honor today.

All their conversations were of the dusty cross roads brand and once reading they would remember for many days,, tell their neighbors and their children, who would also remember.

Many people will have mixed reactions - old men will dream, dreams as they light their pipes while their wives will rock - heads back, a Mona Lisa smile on their wrinkled brow - thinking back to their childhood days and what it might have been.

However when the light fades with sun over the Westcott mountains - the men refill their corncobs - the women pull their shawls over their shoulders and the cool breeze rushes down the gully - the stars come out and another day is gone. One day dies and another will replace it tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow...

Swim in River

When I was sixteen and worked at the tannery on Saturdays with several other boys my age all being sort of never turning down a dare and having more courage than common sense. One day someone dared us to swim the river.

One Spring afternoon after work and the ice had run out of the river and the new cement bridge had replaced the old covered wooden one a few of us decided to take the dare and swim down the river to below town. The river was full from bank to bank.

Hubert Blaven, Winfield Hobart, Jack Anderson and myself that Saturday after work put on our swim suits and entered the river at the tannery barn. The water was cold and mucky with some trees and other debris that made the water dangerous. Jack lost his nerve and came out about the lower tannery row of houses. As we approached the bridge we saw that someone had passed the word as it was lined with people from side to side to watch those fools in the water.

Winfield tried to cross and although he had passed the bridge he managed to reach the other side and hold on to some willow trees and was pulled out by some men with a boat and a rope.

Hubert and I lived down close to the river and knew its currents from fishing there many times. Just before the strong current reached a rocky stretch behind Mr. C.J. Richardsons house it took a slight left turn.

Hubert and I did not fight the swift current but swam down stream working our way towards the bend on the left bank and came out well below where Mr. Calvin Price lived. We never timed our time in the water nor the distance covered but bet it was the fastest swim either of us ever took. We had swam in Knapps Creek many times when it was at about flood stage but this was our first time to tackle the river. If we hadn't known about the change in current our swim might have had another ending. Arriving home I never had anything said but from the looks on Mother's and Ernest's faces I knew they disapproved.

Mountain View Cemetery

Everyone in Marlinton or has ever lived there or close by for any length of time have traveled up the hilly road to Marlinton's Mountain View Cemetery. Many times I have made that trip for family and friends that sleep there forever.

Some how I know by heart what the Minister will say as he always recites the twenty third Psalm.

"The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want, He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters - etc. etc. etc.

The cemetery being located in such a beautiful spot that in turning completely around you must look up to see the beautiful sky and down for a view of the town. So many trips to this beautiful place for loved ones and friends that somehow I always think of the One Hundredth Twentythird Psalm.

"Lift up thine eyes unto the Hills and into the Heavens above from whence thy strength cometh. Have mercy O Lord have mercy upon us. - etc. etc. etc.

Such a beautiful place to spend eternity, up among the hills - up into the heavens. Whenever there I always think of the 123 Psalm. Note: This version of the 123rd. Psalm is from an 1892 Bible./GLV.

A Child Dies

About 1908-09 a group of us youngsters were playing in the old apple orchard beside Birds Run about two blocks from the old Methodist church one summer day - probably catching tadpoles - when we saw a small child running towards us from Mr. Slaven's house. He was playing with matches and had set himself on fire. I remember so plain his screams as he reached us and we were unable to put out the fire. he died there before us and his older Brother Hubert. He was the youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. R.B. Slaven, Brother of Hubert and Rebecca. Two days later I and seven other boys were flower boys at his funeral. Then and there I learned about death and playing with matches.

During the town's Marlinton had several good Doctors and a fine staffed Hospital and administered. Many of the Doctors had certain financial interests to advance their fortune and standing in the small community. Some were farming, cattle business, insurance and lumber business.

The large saw mill at Mountain Grove, Virginia hauled their lumber to the nearest rail head which was the large railroad yard behind C.J. Richardsons Hardware Store. Usually they used two or three teams to each wagon bringing their lumber over the mountain at wheel and down Kumpas Creek to Marlinton. A Mr. Farrell ran the mill at Mountain Grove and his son Michael attended Focshontes County High School. He was a good looking Irish boy with red hair. Later his sister came to Marlinton.

Back to medicine - whenever a boy needed his tonsils out he would visit Dr. J.E. Yeager's office for an appointment and instructions. The next day after school our gang would go with the 'Patient', this time it was Denny Lynch. We would look for Doctor Yeager and stop at whichever lumber stack he was scaling and loading on railroad car.

When he was ready he would open his little black Doctors bag - pour some alcohol over his hands - get his instruments - hold Denny's head back - reach in and snip the tonsils - then show to us kids. After that he would throw them away, swab Denny's throat - reach down in his pocket and give us enough change for each boy to stop at S.R. Wallace's Drug store and have an ice cream cone. Seems strange medical practice now but guess ~~was~~ mountain boys were a hardy bunch of youngsters.

Fires

Our town in the early 'teens boasted a fine fire department that John Hazlett so well described in his Times article. The three hose carts located in well chosen sections of town with the hose tower close to the hill behind the Railroad station.

Of course the largest and most damaging fire was when the tannery burnt in the twenties. The loss of employment to the community was a severe blow as rebuilding took almost a year.

In 1912 the large Valley Hotel behind the Railroad Passenger station burnt. A Mr. Hume was the owner and nothing was saved, he later moved to Charleston. The morning after the fire I remember going over to look at the ruins and heard several notes being played on the piano in the lobby. Madeleine Hume's, a classmate in school was trying out the few keys left. About 1920 I saw Madeleine in Charleston, she was working in a law office on Kanawha street.

Another large fire was the two story frame building on the corner of Main Street and Third Avenue - where the dingy is now. This building contained several shops and had rooms and offices on the second floor. The building ran all the way back to the alley and was a total loss.

For a while the town had a band stand in the middle of the lot and our town band gave concerts every Saturday night and on special occasions. Mr. Bob Cramer and Mr. Tom Anderson, both printers were the prime movers, teachers and leaders of the band. Some of the members were, Mr. Harris the station master, Oran Guss, Sterle and Olive Woodell from Campbelltown, Arnot and Hull Yeager brother Elatz Vaughan and many more I have forgotten.

Later a Mr. Scholz built a small newstand on the front part of the lot. He also sold penny candy, soft drinks etc. In the rear of the store stronger drinks could be bought. Harry Sharp bought the business in 1919 and fixed up the store and had a first class place of business. He also required typewriters, cash registers and adding machines. Some years later he bought the old A.B. Overholt building across the street and did a thriving business. Newstand and soda fountain in front - a pool hall and Pete Boers barber shop in rear.

FIRES

Another fire of some importance was the two story building on Fourth and Court street, where the Post Office now stands. The building covered the entire block and almost to the Bakery, it contained a fruit stand and several shops on the first floor. The second floor were the meeting halls of the Modern Woodmen and the I.O.O.F. The wooden sidewalk on the front was three feet above the ground which along with the building was a total loss.

Later the Woodmen and the I.O.O.F built the two story building on the corner of Camden Avenue and Main Street beside the Hospital. There was a lot between the two buildings.

Mr. Morgan who lived two blocks up Camden Avenue bought the Moving picture equipment from a man who was showing movies in a tent about where Paul Overholts building stood - but behind the little office of Mr S.N. ^{Snyder} Snyder's office, who was an Insurance agent and had a coal contract with the C. & O. Railroad. Later a Yeager ^{RICHARD} had a small building where ran an auto battery repair shop. This building was later moved down third Avenue.

There were many fires during this period. The Marlinton Steam Laundry located behind the railroad freight depot on the side of the hill burnt. Then Kliens Department store on Main street about 1915.

One fire I remember was a tent show that was being set up between Miss. Gusie Gay's home and the bowling alley and swimming pool, which was later a movie house. No one knew how the fire started but every one blamed every body else. It took the big tent about three minutes to go up in flames as the canvas was dry and even the foreman of the crew was smoking himself.

Fires

During the mid teens the municipal power house that supplied all the electricity to the town burnt. I was just a teenager but was the night telephone operator at the office on the second floor of the Bank of Marlinton Building.

I had just relieved Mrs. James Bear at nine P.M. and around midnight the alarm sounded. Looking out the back window I could see the fire which was just above the Clifton Forge Wholesale Grocery Building and was between the tannery office and the Railroad. Could not raise anyone on the phone so called Mrs. Gum's boarding house and tried to get her Grandson Lawrence Kirsason to find out where the fire was but he had gone to the fire himself. Every subscriber for phone service must have been at the fire.

The Hospital called and inquired where the fire was as all their lights were out, said it must be the Light Plant but could get no answer from that part of town. About two hours later was able to give out the location of the fire. All the phones had self contained batteries. However the next morning the tannery came to the rescue and made arrangements to connect the Hospital to their electrical equipment. Later the town received an emergency power equipment until repairs were made. Soon I think the plant was sold to the West Penn Electric Company with the understanding that they would keep the old plant for some years as a standby in case of outages.

Two Mountain Boys

Two boys growing up together in the Greenbrier valley - their experiences in many and various endeavors during the mid teens. Maurice Lang, whose family had moved from Watoga to Marlinton for better schools. Their Mother Grace, Harry, Fleeta, Mabel, Ollie and Maurice. Mr. Langs name was David and was one of Gods men who always had a good word for everyone whoever they were. Mr. Lang was a scaler in the lumber camp for the Watoga mill. His camp was several miles from Watoga back in the mountains, once he made the mistake of telling Maurice and myself the quickest way to reach the camp.

One morning Maurice and I took the morning train from Marlinton to Seebert - waded the Greenbrier - crossed over two mountains untill we came out on the railroad track. Here we turned up stream and in about two miles came upon the logging camp, Mr Lang was scaler here. We both received a dressing down as we had passed through some of the wildest rattlesnake country in the whole lumber track. However we had been taught the way of forest and with our long walking sticks and Barlow knives we felt quite safe. That night after the loggers had dinner we were fed- told all the news about home in Marlinton - bedded down in Mr. Langs and the Camp Foremans bunkhouse (On the floor). After Breakfast Maurices dad sent us home by the same route and we arrived in Marlinton on the six PM train.

About two years later Mr. Lang (or Uncle David), had moved his job to the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company where his camp was about six miles down Elk river from Slaty Fork. Maurice and I left Marlinton about three AM one morning and by eleven had walked to Slaty Fork - by lunch time we were down to the logging camp where Mr. Lang met us with another stern face. At that camp the logs were dragged over about three mountains by overhead steel cable, what a sight to see huge bunches of large logs dropped several hundred feet into the river.

From there they were loaded onto flat cars, secured, then hauled in about a twelve ear hookup up to Slaty Fork where a larger Shay engine would take them on to Spruce.

Another time Maurice and I walked over to Slaty Fork and the camp was only two miles up the mountain at the left of Slaty Fork Store. We stayed several days this time as we knew the Cookes, Charlie Sharpe, who we used to help wash dishes and set the table for the evening meal. Once we went fishing below the store and I caught a two pound trout about a mile downstream from the store - Charlie cooked the trout for us and the three had a full mess of trout with the others we had caught.

During our spare time we walked up the track but managed to stay clear of the loading operations as we liked to watch the derricks load the cars with the logs then chain them down and the little shay engines put on their breaks taking them down the mountain.

Many years after these trips with Maurice to Slaty Fork I spent the night with cousin Hyldred Crick~~ett~~^{ett} and Bruce for one night - this happened to be the night the tannery in Marlinton burnt. What a sight it was the next morning when the millman's car drove down from Campbelltown across the river from the tannery or where it had originally stood.

Once on one of our camping trips - we were down river around the bend at the tunnel. This time Dempsey Johnson was with us - now here was a real sportsman and fine fisherman. For two nights we had a distinguished visitor - ^{the} Mr. Moore, the game warden. Mr. Moore was a wonderful man and taught us many things about survival and sportsmanship - he was a great man. Dempsey Johnson had acquired a good habit of mailing fishing license to many men and boys he found who could not afford or know how to obtain a license, here was a spirit of a true sportsman hardly found in these days. Dempsey will be remembered for some of the big fish he pulled in

Up and down the Greenbrier as well as over on Williams river, Tea creek and both Elk and Cheat rivers.

For spending money Maurice and I trapped muskrats in the slough below Knapps creek by the railroad track. Without much experience we were not experts in removing the pelts from the rats.

Once Mr. Ira Brill of the Peoples Store and Supply Company where we sold our pelts asked us who taught us to skin a rat. Receiving a negative answer - Mr. Brill being the kind of man he was took us into his store room and with a fresh muskrat proceeded to teach us step by step just how to remove the pelt with the least cuts or damage. After that little lesson Maurice and I received at least a dollar more per pelt due to the kindness of Mr. Brill - who also I guess received a better price when he sold them.

Another money maker we used was going through the trash at the town dump down by the bed of the creek looking for old medicine bottles. The smaller the bottle the more we were paid for them. This was at a time when bottles were blown by hand. Usually five cents for a real small bottle up to a half cent for a half pint.

Many of the bottles contained dried medicine which coated the inside and our problem was to get them clean - our answer - get a willow stick fill the bottle half full of fine sand and water - insert the stick - tie all the bottles in line on a long string and put into the rapids where they would not break. The string being tied around the middle gave the bottles a back and fourth motion and soon the stain was gone. However the bottles had to be inspected twice a day or the sand would leave the inside frosted.

When the bottles were clean we would take them home - boil them in the laundry boiler - dry in the oven - get a note from our Mothers that the bottles were sterile deliver to either of the towns Doctors who were always in need of bottles.

I remember the last basket of bottles I sold - they were to Dr. J.W. Yeager - his office was in the First National Bank Building on the opposite side of the Bank itself. I remember that this was a good haul and Dr. Yeager after sorting out the bottles and reading Mothers note he gave me eighty two cents. This was a lot of money for a country boy on a Friday afternoon.

I remember that I crossed the street to the store being run by Mr. A. S. Overholt, a general store. (later Harry Sharp had a newsstand and soda fountain in the front and a pool hall in the back with Pete Boggs Barber Shop behind that). I bought a pair of knee length stockings, a pair of boys suspenders - a red bandanna handkerchief, a small bag of stick candy - all this and thirtytwo cents to use for the Saturday Matinee 'Pearl White Serial', after the show Gertrude Overholt and I had enough between us to stop at Kay's Drug store and get a chocolate soda (two straws). Ask her - she is now Mrs. Thomas Trent.

Many were the camping trips Maurice and I had all over Fort Worth County, we knew every swimming hole - where the fish were biting in what kind of weather.

When the Flu hit Marlinton in 1918-19 I always stayed with the Langes taking care of them with the help of all the neighbors who did all the cooking and shopping.

Maurice chose the Air Force and I picked the Navy. We never saw each other after that in the early twenties but corresponded frequently. When he died I lost a very dear and good friend. Taps for Maurice in Texas. I will always remember our happy days and nights we spent together. Rest in Peace.

A Visit Home to Pocahontas

Once while visiting Marlinton I drove up Elk Mountain through the fog - turned around and came down to the second big curve. The fog was heavy so parked my car close to the bank out of the way and waited. This was the land of my people for six generations and I wanted to have a good look and remember every detail. In about an hour the sun burnt through the fog and sparkled on every crystal.

So here was the land of my people for four generations of Waughs, and others. Of course on down the Greenbrier valley and up Knapps Creek there would be other generations of Vaughans, Waughs, Moses's, Poage, Rankins and others.

Immediately below me was the Edray cemetery where my Father and little Brother Edwin were buried. My Aunt Annie Baxter and her only son Floyd. My Grandmother Amanda Frances Poage Waugh, MY GREAT GRANDFATHER REV. JOHN WAUGH A baby of Uncle Marlow Waugh's, these and many more of my kin sleep in the Edray cemetery including some of my Rankin kin.

Looking across Elmer Poage Farm I could see the new home that Uncle Preston Baxter had built for his second wife and behind that the remains of the large hewed log house my Grandfather Levi Waugh had bought and enlarged after returning from the C.S.A. and the Civil War. Here he had raised nine children - six by his first wife Amanda Frances Poage and three by his second wife Ella Ruckman.

Lifting my eyes a little I could see the Indian Draft location of the Indian Draft Church and school - both originally in the same building that dated way back when Aunt Lizzie was a schoolgirl. The cemetery was behind the building and there were my Grandfather Levi Waugh beside his second wife Ella Ruckman and their daughter Sally Waugh Denison. Another row of unmarked graves contained the remains of Granddads three little Brothers and Sister, victims of the disease that followed the troops during the Civil war. My Granddads youngest Brother, John Waugh and his wife were in another row side by side. There were more older graves mostly unmarked so I do not know who they were.

Who could say that this was not my home land. On down in the valley of the Greenbrier river I had left my blood from stone bruises from every toe on down the river and up Knapps Creek on dozens of rocks and boulders, even on the hill sides above.

Above Marlinton on a beautiful hill in Mountain View Cemetery, owned by the town. My recollections of this place goes back when it was a farm and the butchershops of town used a shed there as their slaughter house. Mr. Ratliff lived in a small house there and many times I had played with his children - even after he moved to Kenick.

Dr. Williams, a medical man from Scotland and the father of A.D. Williams and the late Mr. Ed. Williams was the first person buried there. His grave is in the corner to the right of the main gate. There the road turns sharply left and continued three miles up the ridge to the Mountain View Apple Orchard - which was a failure. I spent one summer there.

After the hill was used as a cemetery and enlarged many times its former size. There are few people in Marlinton who doesn't have some one buried there. There sleeps my Mother Fatima Susan Denison, Brother James Herbert Vaughan, Step Father Clyde Ernest Denison, Aunt Elizabeth S. Waugh, Uncle Harlow Waugh, his wife Aunt Gertie and daughter Francis, Uncle Geo. H. Waugh, Aunt Lulu Williams and many, many cousins and friends. Surely there must be something that makes this my eternal home.

Up Knapps Creek there are two more generations that go back to the late 1770's. My GreatGreatGrandfather Samuel Waugh and his Father James who fought in the Revolutionary War, he received a land grant for his services. Both Samuel and his Brother James 2nd. are buried in an unmarked grave at Hethers, in the Hill country or near Dilleys Mill. They were both members of the counties first county court of Pocahontas Co., they both died in 1831.

Surely this is my own, my native country. At the head of Cummings Creek on over to the Little Levels country there are many, many marked and unmarked graves of the Poages. My Grandmother Martha Poage's people

Col. George Washington Podge, her Grandfather gave the original land for the first church and cemetery and the present Oak Grove Church and cemetery in Millsboro.

To further prove that this valley is my home, my Grandfather and Grandmother Burrell Vaughan are buried in the cemetery behind the Old Stone Church in Lewisburg. Their graves are unmarked but are recorded on the plot of the cemetery in the church.

Generations come and go and every one leaves their own mark or niche in a place they may claim as home. In this respect I claim Pocahontas County as my home although I was born in Roncervert, Greenbrier County.

However it gives proof that although a young country boy may cut his apron strings and go to the four corners of the earth - his heart strings remain intact forever - so this county called Pocahontas will always be my home - today - tomorrow - forever.

And thus it will always be forever more - sure as the thaw comes and the ice goes out of the river every Spring some young person will leave this valley and the cycle will continue. All things come to an end evidently - but life goes on and so it will always be - forever.

Wednesday June 6th. 1976, 5:50 AM.

Just Comments

I've read with interest all the County School Superintendent's articles on the proposed grade school buildings for Pocahontas County. I attended the public meeting, saw the slides and heard the comments, pro and con. I read Mr. Charles Moore's article in a recent Pocahontas Times.

I'm sure everyone in Pocahontas County is interested in good school buildings and good schools inside those buildings. The problem we face is the fact that a small percent of the people are the ones who will have to pay the tax to pay for the school bonds. Until a tax method is reached where every citizen of the county pays their fair share, there will be a problem. We had one person running for the Board of Education, who was interested in going before the Legislature, to get some type of county tax, where we would pay. That person was defeated by not too many votes.

We are a county of a large number of older people, who don't feel like voting a tax on the land owners and the few others who will have increased taxes. Many of these older people have taken the Homestead Tax Act and are exempted the first \$5,000. It just takes 10 dimes to make a dollar—and 10—one hundreds to make a thousand—and all of these extra dollars which are exempted would soon add

up. We could get passed a County Income Tax, or a County Car Tag, and then all would be in the business of getting the schools we need.

I, too, taught in a one room school. I got my grade school education in a one and two room school. My lunch froze from the time I set the lunch pail on the shelf in the hall until lunch time. Of course, I want our children to have better than this. We have much more in our homes, cars on the road and all these things, and we don't want our 1400 boys and girls in grade school where the plaster may fall and knock them in the head, or where they will be electrocuted by exposed wires, or where they will be trapped by fire. A little walking in the snow or rain to gym or cafeteria won't hurt them—they'll play in the rain and snow as soon as they get home. That's good for them.

At the public meeting the question was asked, "What tax does a salaried person, owning no home, pay?" The answer was, "On their car."

My question is, "Why can't some method of taxation be reached where everyone would be a member of the team?" Maybe we would have to go to the state to get a new law. Why not?

Mrs. Robert Hiner



West Virginia History

The marriage of business and politics that gave birth to modern West Virginia is documented for the first time in a book published by the West Virginia University Library.

West Virginia and the Captains of Industry was written by John A. Williams, WVU associate professor of history, who grew up in Greenbrier County and who received his doctorate from Yale University.

"By 1900, West Virginia business and politics were dominated by industrialists who marshalled both the political and economic resource of the state for use beyond its borders," Williams writes. "The forging of this colonial political economy is the central concern of this book."

With development as their nostrum, those men gained control of both the Democratic and Republican Parties while also dominating the major industries, according to Williams.

But "West Virginia barely kept up with the national pace of improvement while failing to break out of its marginal and tributary position within the national economic system," Dr. Williams concludes.

"Thus in terms of their expectations, the boomers' utopia failed to materialize. What went wrong? Equally to the point, were there alternatives to the disappointing type of growth that took place?"

Williams cites the career of Joseph H. Diss Debar as one example of how faith in development failed West Virginia.

In 1864, Debar was named the first state commissioner of immigration "to alert settlers and investors to the untapped riches of the infant commonwealth," Dr. Williams writes.

Debar, who designed the state seal and produced some 19,000 pieces of promotional literature about West Virginia, later ended his career in prison—"convicted in New York as a confidence man operating in partnership with a woman who claimed to be the daughter of mad King Ludwig and Lola Montez."

Copies of "West Virginia and the Captains of Industry" may be ordered by sending a check or money order for \$11 to Mountaineer Book Store, West Virginia University, Downtown Campus, Morgantown, WV 26506.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, APR. 1, 1976

Bicentennial Funds

Governor Arch Moore has approved an expenditure of \$2000 in Bicentennial funds for the Town of Durbin in Pocahontas County.

Moore said the funds will help the renovation of a town building for use as a mayor's office and community center. The Governor indicated that the center will become a focal point of community activities, and will serve all the people of Durbin.

Governor Arch Moore has approved an expenditure of \$3000 in Bicentennial funds for several special projects being sponsored by the Cass Bicentennial Commission in Pocahontas County.

The funding will help enable the renovation and reconstruction of the Mayor's office and city council chambers, Moore said.

In addition, the commission plans to rebuild the suspension bridge that once linked the east and west sides of the town by providing a walk providing a walkway for pedestrians across the Greenbrier River, he continued.

The Governor indicated that planning is also being completed to convert a former church into a community center for the Town of Cass.

July 4

The Bicentennial Commission is asking all churches to ring their bells on July 4 at 2 p. m. for two minutes to celebrate the 200 anniversary—to the minute—of the first ringing of the Liberty Bell, proclaiming the independence of the United States.

CASS TRAIN

As the opening of the summer operating season approaches, things get busier at the Cass Scenic Railroad. Although regular public trips do not begin until Saturday, May 29, the railroad has already operated one special trip in February, has two scheduled for April, and will be operating at least six days in May prior to the 29th.

During the winter months Superintendent Jim Reep and his crew have been busy in the shop doing necessary repair work on the engines and cars and maintenance on the track. They have spent time this winter getting the new shop organized and have replaced the flues in Shays 2 and 3 and the tires on Shay 5. These three locomotives along with Shay 4 and Heislner 6 will be providing the motive power for the 1976 season. Cars have been cleaned and painted. On the track the major project has been the elimination of a curve between Whitaker Station and Old Spruce.

The State is in the process of receiving 25 surplus railroad cars and five diesel locomotives from the Federal Government. Part of this equipment will be used at Cass and part on the new scenic railroad owned by the State in Fayette County.

At present the major need at Cass is someone to fill the shop foreman's position. If anyone is interested in this job they are asked to contact Superintendent Reep at Cass.

Greenbrier Scenic Railroad

The popular Greenbrier Scenic Railroad is abandoning operations. Railroad board of directors March 9 announced their non-profit corporation is cancelling plans for any further Autumn weekend passenger trains.

Due to increased operation costs, these railroad officers said expenditures for fuel, diesel locomotives and train crew leases have risen. Air brake equipment upgrading is needed on coaches they own and use.

Additionally, the Chessie System is considering removing a large portion of the Greenbrier River Valley trackage from Durbin south to North Caldwell Station near here.

With the uncertainty both of track abandonment and the time frame in which it might occur, the railroad directors did not wish to invest in coach equipment repairs.

The four passenger coaches the Greenbrier Railroad owns are to be sold by bid. The remaining 14 coaches and cars will go into storage at the Cass Scenic Railroad. This equipment is owned by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources.

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - JULY 8, 1976

Letter

I hear that people are writing letters about Marlinton, and I thought you might be interested in what I think of it.

In 1916 I graduated from D & E Commercial Department, after which they got me a job at \$25 per month. My father thought I was starving myself to death so with the help of Mr. Andrew Price and Mr. Beard from Hillsboro, I went to work at the Bank of Marlinton in February 1917 and worked there about three years. At that time Mr. McFerrin and Mr. Wade were bookkeepers. A couple of years later Mr. Wade went into the insurance business and Mr. Rexrode was hired in his place. I worked under Mr. Echols, Cashier, and Mr. Hunter, Vice President. Mr. Hunter kept an "Eagle Eye" on me and gave me much good advice when he saw me doing something I shouldn't be doing. One of the things he told me was that water running over stones for a half mile purifies it. I never forgot it.

I roomed and boarded with a family named Sheets who lived down on Second Avenue and later with the

McFerrins who lived up near the tannery. One morning after a hard storm, I went to work in a row boat.

At that time the passenger train ran from Ronceverte to Durbin and everyone went to the station on Sunday evening to see who was traveling.

After the first World War ended, there was a man from Hinton who brought an airplane to Marlinton and gave people rides, fifteen minutes for \$15. I wanted to ride in it but was scared. Catherine Clark kept begging her father to let her go up, and he finally told the man to strap her in and give her the works. He took her up, looped the loop and nose-dived and everything. When he landed she jumped out and ran to Mr. Clark and said "give him another \$15. I thought it wasn't so bad, so I paid my \$15 and took my one and only plane ride. We went up high enough that I could see Huntersville. I got down in the plane and promised if I got back safely to the ground I would stay there. I was up eight minutes.

Sincerely,
Mary B. Cromer

POCAHONTAS TIMES

(Page 2)

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1976

Dear Jane,

Mr. Sam Hill omitted the name of Henry Harper, my great, great grandfather, from his list of early Pocahontas County settlers.

I do not have my copy of the Historical Sketches by the late Rev. Wm. T. Price with me and cannot give you the page number. (note Page 393, Henry Harper settled here in 1812.)

Please check and make correction. I would like to see Henry Harper's name on the list. He deserved great credit for the part he did in helping to develop our county.

Shall appreciate your looking into it.

Sincerely,

Enid Harper

JULY 4TH

Independence Day—the fourth of July—commemorates the birthday of our Nation. The day symbolizes the divine right of each man to have a voice in his own government. A Republic was born on this day! This special day is probably best summarized in a letter written by John Adams to his wife on 3 July 1776:

“Yesterday, the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America; and a greater perhaps never was, nor will be, deciding among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, that those United Colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent States. The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with show, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore.”

Adams was talking about the discussion and the passing of the declaration of independence resolution introduced by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia on 7 June 1776, but deferred until 1 July, so that the committee of five could prepare a statement explaining the reasons for independence.

On 2 July, the Lee resolution was approved, and on 4 July, after much debate and some slight deletions from the explanatory statements as presented by the committee of five, the total statement of declaration, including Lee's resolution was adopted.

Thus 200 years ago this month, our Founding Fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence, and as Benjamin Franklin was leaving the Constitutional Convention, he was met by a woman who said, “Sir, what have you given us?” And he replied: “A Republic, Madam, if you can keep it.” There is a great deal of wisdom in that statement.

The very next year, in 1777, even though they were in the midst of war, Philadelphia residents observed 4 July as a day of celebration. Today, practically every hamlet in all of the 50 states, plus American Servicemen and civilians, who happen to be in other countries, observe the Fourth of July with prayers, speeches, parades, pageantry, and fireworks.

Fourth of July

It was a grand and glorious Bicentennial Fourth of July celebration in Marlinton Sunday. The PCHS Band played, under the direction of Charles Fauber, Dale Curry was master of ceremonies, Mayor Ed Rexrode greeted the large crowd, David Corcoran led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, PATRIOTIC PRESENTATION, Liberty Proclaimed, was directed by Mrs. Ben Morgan, with a county-wide group of singers, ten young persons representing various occupations, with "hats off to the past and coats off for the future," Connie Campbell and Davy Corcoran as Martha and George Washington, and "Butch" Michael as narrator. The ringing of the church bells brought minutes of thoughtful gratitude for our freedom and many blessings. Congressman Staggers brought challenges of the changes facing us in the third century of our nation—one thing that is certain is change—and the program closed with patriotic favorites sung by a Bicentennial singing group led by Mrs. Willard Eskridge. There was plenty of cake and watermelon for everyone. The large cake decorated with a scroll, flag and Liberty Bell was baked and decorated by Helen Kellison, Cameron Astin, Osa McLaughlin and Sally Nottingham.

Happy Birthday, America

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1976

Bicentennial

From the Fourth of July observances to the Bicentennial Hymn Sing, last week was a fitting celebration of our Country's 200th Birthday.

We will express here appreciation for everything done to help make this historical observance meaningful and a true County-wide endeavor.

Happy Third Century!

Pioneer Days

Pioneer Days have come and gone again. Next year's Pioneer Days will be July 8-10. Start making plans.

By almost everyone's evaluation, this year's activities were successful. Always a few things forgotten and a few things done wrong but everyone will try harder next time.

The crowds were good, the weather good, and everyone seemed to have a good time, which is important.

Saturday's Parade was unusually good. Real work had gone into the floats and entries. There were many fine horses. Steve Hunter was Parade Director again and this year he was assisted by Julia Price, coordinator, with, of course, many helpers. Good planning was evidenced. The surprise Uncle Sam was good. There was a planned historical sequence, with the group of Indians, Princess Pocahontas, Chief and Braves on horses, pioneers on foot, settlers in a pioneer wagon, chicken coop on the side, mountain musicians, and a clown from bygone days for frivolity. Clubs and individuals made excellent entries. It was all good.

Many good comments were heard about "Godspell," presented by Greenbrier Theatre. It was exceptionally good.

The Flea Market was successful.

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - JULY 8, 1976-

Pocahontas Pioneer Days

By Bobby Dean

As we walk through days of
festival

O'er the paths our
forefathers trod

And we imitate their
workings

Sometimes with approval
the elders nod

Well, it pleases me
immensely

To hear the old ones say,

"Well Done"

That's the way we did in my
day

From the dawn till setting
sun"

And I welcome all the
visitors

Who have come from far
and near

Those who take part in the
program

And those who just come to
see and hear

As they travel through our
county

With its lofty mountain
peaks

And they gaze with awe
and wonder

At the lovely hills and
creeks

Now I am so proud of my
heritage

That my ancestors left to
me

It's been spread through
out the country

Even clear across the sea

The courage of the
mountain folks

Is told as far as history goes

And the same is still true
today

Which proves—One reaps
Just what he sows

And when God fulfills his
promise

That He gave in John:14

And we move on up to His
House

The pattern of which I've
already seen

It will be almost like this
place

With its rivers, hills and
streams

And the gathering of the
mountain folks

We'll all be there, it seems

There'll be someone to pick
some bluegrass

And someone to sing a song
Maybe even have a square

dance
What e'er they do, we'll
go along

I hope this verse will pay
tribute

To the folks I love so well
And the beauty of our

County

Till the last tolling of the
bell.

POCAHONTAS TIMES

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1976

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

Bicentennial Week Activities

In Pocahontas County

The Bicentennial Week is going to be very, very full of activities in Pocahontas County starting with the Durbin Jubilee on Saturday, July 8, and ending with the final events of Pioneer Days on Sunday, July 11. All types of activities are being scheduled in many different parts of the County. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend as many as possible.

This week we are printing a brief schedule of events and plan a detailed listing for next week's paper. If we have missed any events please let us know for next week.

Saturday, July 8

Afternoon: Durbin Jubilee Day at Durbin.

Evening: Rodeo at Fairgrounds.

Sunday, July 9

Afternoon: Bicentennial Birthday Celebration at Marlinton.

Evening: Rodeo

Monday, July 10

Evening: Rodeo

Tuesday, July 11

Afternoon and evening: Chautauqua at Hillsboro

Wednesday, July 12

Afternoon and evening: Chautauqua.

Thursday, July 13

Afternoon: Chautauqua

Evening: Miss Pocahontas Pageant.

Friday, July 14

All Day: Pioneer Days

Evening: Gindapell

Saturday, July 15

All Day: Pioneer Days

Afternoon: Parade

Sunday, July 16

All Day: Pioneer Days

Afternoon: Horse Show

Evening: Bicentennial

Worship Service.

For information contact

the following people:

Rodeo, Argile Arbogast,

709-4853.

Durbin Jubilee, Mrs.

Anna Mick, 456-4080.

Bicentennial Birthday Celebration, Mrs. Jane Sharp

699-4973.

Chautauqua, David Cor-

coran or Susan Heiter

563-4430.

Pioneer Days, Doug Don-

track 799-4993.

DURBIN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Upper Pocahontas County came alive again with the special Bicentennial Celebration in Durbin on July 3 that included a parade and carnival activities in the Hiner Park. This has been the biggest event in the Bartow-Frank-Durbin area for years. The Bicentennial Committee has worked for several months to make this celebration a success and were well rewarded with a grand turnout. We were honored by the presence of Mrs. Julia Pitsenberger, member of the W. Va. House of Delegates, who entered her car in our parade. We are grateful for the Parade entries from Marlinton and other local and neighboring areas. Our local area clubs and organizations were given ample opportunity to make money for their organizations by operating a variety of booths and they thank all who donated their baked goods, gifts, money, time, and efforts.

Mrs. Janey Warner, of Bartow, is to be commended for the fine job she did organizing the booths and fun activities at Hiner's Park.

We all appreciate Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hiner, of Durbin for donating the use of their property to these clubs and organizations.

The Bicentennial Commission's president, Mrs. Louise Collins, and the Vice President, Mrs. Lottie Moore, wish to thank each and every person who helped to make our celebration a success.

Mrs. Alma Mick, Mayor of Durbin and secretary of the Bicentennial Commission, who was in charge of the parade, sincerely thanks Gray Wilfong and Karl Hille for helping organize and form the parade. The Town of Durbin and the Bicentennial Committee wish to thank Mrs. Barbara Hille for making the posters used to decorate their parade vehicles and for the one used on the carnival grounds.

We hope everyone enjoyed the celebration and if we missed thanking anyone, we take this opportunity to do so.

Durbin Bicentennial
Commission

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR



THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1976

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

Honorary Parade Marshals

Misses Mabel and Fleeta Lang will be Honorary Parade Marshals for the 1976 Pioneer Days Parade. These two young ladies are known to almost everyone after being in their business, Lang's Dress Shoppe, from 1936 to 1968, out two years, and then from 1970 to 1974 again before retiring for good. Mabel started work for Overholt's Store and stayed with them for 21 years; Fleeta worked for Schuchat's and Kline's Stores for 20 years, before they joined in a store of their own.

They were born in Kerans, Randolph County, but have spent most of their lives in Pocahontas. Their parents were David and Grace Lang.



Bicentennial Week Activities In Pocahontas County

The week of July 3-11 is going to be a most interesting and exciting one in Pocahontas County with at least one event scheduled for each day. No matter what your interests might be — parades, horses, country music, crafts, lectures, history, games, food, drama, singing, art work, dancing — you will find activities to suit your taste. Make no other plans for this week but to spend it here in "wild, wonderful" Pocahontas County.

A schedule of events for the week is given below. Be sure to let us know if we have left any activity out.

POCAHONTAS TIMES

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1976

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

Pioneer Days Parade

The 1976 Pioneer Days Parade will be held on Saturday, July 10, at 2 p. m. Registration will be from 10 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. at the VanReenen Funeral Home parking lot. Judging will begin at 12:45 p. m. and all entrants must be in place at that time to be judged.

There will be classes as follows: Pioneer Horse and Rider; Horse or Oxen Drawn Conveyance; People Walking in Pioneer Dress; Western Style Horse and Rider; Floats of Pioneer or Bicentennial Theme; Bicycles and Riders of Bicentennial or Pioneer Theme; Commercial Entries; and Antique Cars of 1951 Model or earlier.

In addition this year, immediately following the parade, an Antique Car Show will be held at the Marlinton Elementary School field, with trophies for the first five places, and prize money for the top ten places in the show.

All parade classes, except the Antique Auto, will have trophies and prize money for the top three awards. No prize money will be given in the Commercial Class. For further information contact J. Steven Hunter, 799-4700

Pioneer Days Flea Market

If you have any collectibles, antiques, or odds and ends about that you want to be rid of, the Pioneer Day Flea Market is your opportunity to clean house and make some money in the process. It will be held on Saturday, July 10, at the old Marlinton Graded School playground, weather permitting, beginning at 9 a. m.

The charge for display space will be \$2 plus the Pioneer Days Badge. No clothing is to be sold.

Pioneer Days Parade

The 1976 Pioneer Days Parade will be held on Saturday, July 10, at 2 p. m. Registration will be from 10 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. at the VanRusen Funeral Home parking lot. Judging will begin at 12:45 p. m. and all entrants must be in place at that time to be judged.

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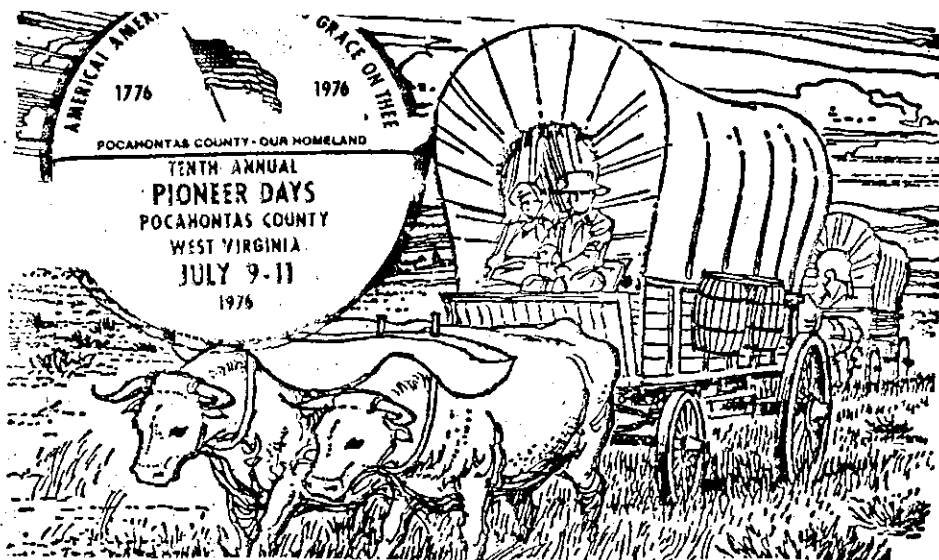
Band Practice

The PCHS Band will hold practice on Monday, June 28, 7:30 p. m., in the High School band room for Parades July 3-Durbin; Pioneer Days.

Charlie Fauber, Director

Durbin Bicentennial

The Durbin Bicentennial Commission has received the \$2,000 grant and applied it to the completion of the Durbin Mayor's office. This is a grant from the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Final plans for a Parade and Festival at Durbin on Saturday, July 3, to commemorate the Bicentennial are being completed. Formation of the Parade will be at the Westvaco Wood yard at the west end of Durbin at 1 p. m. All floats and entries should be at the site by that time. The temporary booths at the carnival ground will open at 11:30 a. m. and the Parade will start at 2 p. m. The Town of Durbin is allowing free parking from noon on that day.



Pioneer Days Program Changes

Since the official program for Pioneer Days was sent to the printers, several changes have been made to the schedule of events. Be sure to take note of the following changes and mark them in your copy.

The Pony Pulling Contest on Friday and the Horse-pulling Contest on Saturday have been moved from the Marlinton Athletic Field to the Fairgrounds.

The Historical tour of Marlinton listed for Sunday afternoon will not be held.

On Page 11 of the program the dates for the Pocahontas County Mountain and Bluegrass Festival were left out of the advertisement. This event will be held on July 30, 31, and August 1, and is not part of Pioneer Days. The Pioneer Days Mountain Music Festival is on Saturday at 6 p. m. at the Athletic Field.

The Marlinton Senior Citizens Crafts will be at Richardson's Store instead of the log cabin at the Museum.

Correction

Miss Pocahontas Pageant

In last week's paper and the official Pioneers Days Program the sponsoring organizations for Sharon Kellison is incorrectly given. It should have been the Swago Extension Homemakers Club. The Miss Pocahontas Pageant Committee regrets this error.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

- Durbin Bicentennial Celebration --
11:30 a.m. -- Food Booths Open
2:00 p.m. -- Parade
Following parade: games and food at Hiners
Park in Durbin. Community singing.
- Flying "W" Rodeo and Wild West Show
Sponsored by the Pocahontas County Horseman's
Association
6:00 p.m. -- Fairgrounds at Marlinton
Country music during intermission
Admission - \$3 for adults and \$1 for 12 and
under.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

- "Happy Birthday, USA"
- Marlinton Bicentennial Birthday Celebration
First National Bank Porch
1:30 p.m. -- PCHS Band will play
2:00 p.m. -- Church Bells for 3 minutes
Star Spangled Banner
Pledge of Allegiance
Patriotic Presentation
Speaker: Honorable Harley Staggers
Bicentennial Choir
Refreshments: Watermelon and birthday cake.
- God & Country Service
3:30 p.m. -- Grace Independent Baptist Church
Marlinton
- Flying "W" Rodeo at Fairgrounds, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 5

- Flying "W" Rodeo at Fairgrounds, 2 p.m.
- Bluegrass Show with the Dominion Bluegrass
Boys, sponsored by the Pioneer Days Committee
8:00 p.m. -- Marlinton Municipal Building
Admission: \$2 for adults, \$1 for children.

TUESDAY, JULY 6

- Chautauqua at the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace at
Hillsboro, sponsored by the Hillsboro Bicenten-
nial Committee and the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace
Foundation
Greenbrier Valley Day
1:00 p.m. -- Invocation & discussion "What is
Chautauqua?"
1-5 p.m. -- Exhibits and demonstrations:
Seneca District, Boy Scouts of America
12-5 p.m. -- Tours of Pearl S. Buck Birthplace
2:00 p.m. -- Mr. and Mrs. William P. McNeel,
Educators and travelers, slide lecture and
discussion: "Living and Working Down-Under:
Australia."
4:00 p.m. -- Dr. Patrick W. Gainer, Folklore
Authority, program: "West Virginia Folk
Culture: Songs in the Home."
8:00-9:30 p.m. -- Concert: Black Mountain
Bluegrass Boys
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. -- Concession Stand Open.
Admission: Afternoon, \$1 adults, 50c students
Evening, \$1.50 per person

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

- Chautauqua at Hillsboro
Marlinton and Upper Pocahontas Day
1:00 p.m. -- Invocation: Rev. Richard L. Newkirk,
Marlinton Presbyterian Church
1:05-1:15 p.m. -- Discussion "What is Chautau-
qua?" David H. Corcoran, Ex. Dir. PSBBF
1 - 5 p.m. -- Exhibits and demonstrations: Seneca
District, Boy Scouts of America
12 - 5 p.m. -- Tours of the Birthplace Museum.
1:45 - 2:00 p.m. -- Mark Newkirk, Violinist
2 p.m. -- Mr. Boyd Payton, Noted Author and
Reformer, Program and discussion: Boyd
Payton's America: Yesterday, Today and
Tomorrow
4:00 p.m. -- Mr. Woodrow Taylor, Lecturer and
traveler, slide program and discussion: "The
Holy Land: Religions of the World."
8:00 - 9:30 p.m. -- "Bicentennial '76" The Music
of Broadway honors America's 200th Birthday.
Greenbrier Valley Theater Group.
11 a.m. - 9 p.m. -- Concession Stand Open.
Admission: Afternoon, \$1 adults, 50c students
Evening, \$2.50 per person

- Country and Western Music Show
7:30 p.m. -- First National Bank porch in
Marlinton. Free will donations.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

- Chautauqua at Hillsboro
Little Levels Day
1:00 p.m. -- Invocation and discussion: "What is
Chautauqua?"
1:00 - 5:00 p.m. -- Exhibits and Demonstrations:
People of Hillsboro.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m. -- Art Exhibits
Local Pocahontas County artists only.
12 - 5 p.m. -- Tours of Birthplace Museum.
1:45 - 2:00 p.m. -- Mrs. Sherman Beard, Organist
2:00 p.m. -- Panel Discussion: "The History of
Hillsboro & the Little Levels."
Alfred McNeel, Chairman.
4:00 p.m. -- Dr. Thomas R. Ross, Historian and
author. Program: "The Declaration of Inde-
pendence and The American Revolution."
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. -- Concession Stand Open
Admission: \$1 adults, 50c students
- MISS POCAHONTAS PAGEANT
8:00 p.m. -- Pocahontas County High School
Admission: \$1 adults, 50c children

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Pioneer Days

- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Pearl Buck Museum open
Regular admission will be charged.
- 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. -- Old Log Church on Stony Creek open
- 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. -- Pocahontas County Historical Museum open -- Student Art Exhibit
- 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. -- French Creek Game Farm Exhibit at First National Bank lot
- 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. -- Wagon rides to and from Pioneer Days activities
- 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. -- Surrey rides, 50c
- Noon - 7 p.m. -- Percussion Rifle Shooting Contest Across Stillwell bridge
- 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. -- Craft exhibits and demonstrations at Marlinton School Gym
- 1:00 p.m. -- Pony Pulling Contest at Fair Grounds
Admission -- \$1
- 1:30 p.m. -- Old Time Spelling Bee at Museum
- 2 p.m. -- Pocahontas County & Bicentennial History Contest at Museum
- 3:00 p.m. -- GODSPELL
Marlinton Methodist Church
Admission: \$2 per person
- 7 p.m. -- Frog Hop and Turtle races at Marlinton Athletic Field
- 7:30 p.m. -- Tobacco Spitting Contest
- 8:30 p.m. -- GODSPELL
Marlinton Methodist Church
Admission: \$3 per person

Note: Unless otherwise noted, admission to Pioneer Days events is by the Pioneer Days Badge.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

— Pioneer Days

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Art Exhibit at Hillsboro.

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Pearl Buck Museum open

Regular admission will be charged.

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. -- Pocahontas County Historical Museum open -- Student Art Exhibit

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. -- Wagon rides to and from Pioneer Days activities

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Surrey Rides, 50c

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- French Creek Game Farm Exhibit at First National Bank lot

9:00 a.m. -- Horsepulling Contest at Marlinton Athletic Field

Admission: \$1

9 a.m. - 6 p.m. -- Percussion Rifle Shooting Contest, across Stillwell bridge

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Craft exhibits and demonstrations at Marlinton School Gym

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. -- Old Log Church on Stony Creek open.

2:00 p.m. -- PIONEER DAYS PARADE

3:30 p.m. -- Antique Car Show at Marlinton Athletic Field

4:00 p.m. -- Horseshoe Pitching Contest at Marlinton Presbyterian Church

6 p.m. -- MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL
Marlinton Athletic Field

9:00-11:30 p.m. -- Square Dance at Southern States Store

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. -- Social Dance at Marlinton School Gym

Admission: \$10 per couple in advance

\$12 at the door

Note: Unless otherwise noted, admission to Pioneer Days events is by the Pioneer Days Badge.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Morning -- Church of your choice

10:00 a.m. -- Old Log Church on Stony Creek open

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. -- Wagon rides to and from Pioneer Days activities.

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. -- Surrey rides, 50c

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. -- Pearl Buck Museum open

Regular admission will be charged.

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. -- Pocahontas County Historical Museum open -- Student Art Exhibit

1 p.m. - 5 p.m. -- French Creek Game Farm exhibit at First National Bank lot

1:30 p.m. -- PIONEER DAYS HORSE SHOW Fairgrounds

Admission: \$1 adults, 50c under 12

2 p.m. -- Preaching and Song Service at Old Log Church on Stony Creek

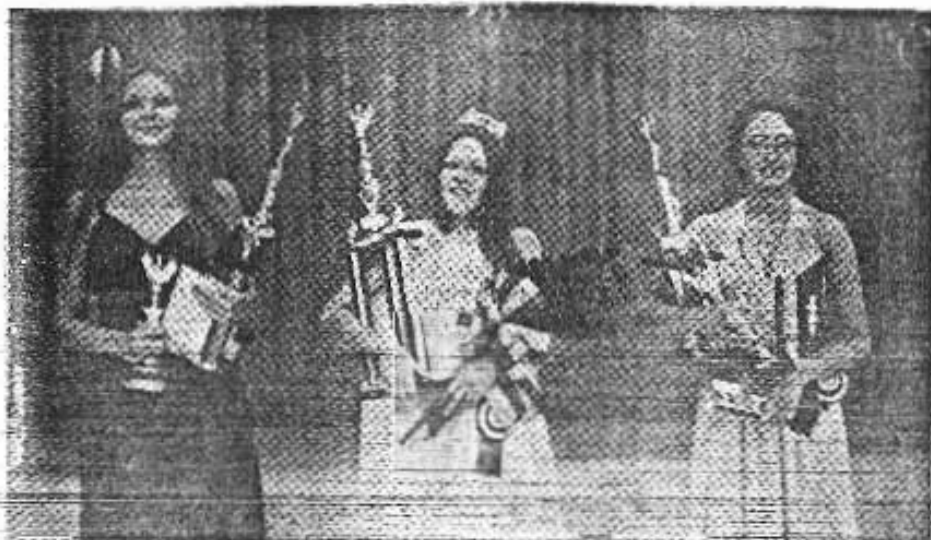
2 p.m. -- Singing Festival at Mt. Olivet Methodist Church on Droop

2 p.m. -- Mountain Ballad singing at Museum

7:30 p.m. BICENTENNIAL WORSHIP SERVICE and HYMN SING

Marlinton Methodist Church

Note: Unless otherwise noted, admission to Pioneer Days events is by the Pioneer Days Badge.



Miss Pocahontas

Marla Chestnut, of Dunmore, was crowned Miss Pocahontas 1976 by Susan Viers, Miss Pocahontas 1975, at Thursday's red, white and blue Pageant. Connie Campbell, Little Miss Pocahontas, gave out the trophies.

Miss Chestnut won the talent competition with a recitation and a song, the swimsuit competition, and was named the overall winner by the judges. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Muri Chestnut, of Dunmore, and she was sponsored by the Marlinton Business and Professional Women's Club.

Cheryl Dunbrack was elected Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants.

Nathalie Dolan, of Arbovale, shown on the left in the above picture, was first runner-up, and Miss Dunbrack, on the right, was second runner up. Miss Dolan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Dolan, of Arbovale; she was sponsored by

the Arbovale Extension Homemakers Club. Miss Dunbrack is the daughter of Mrs. Phyllis Jackson and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dunbrack, Sr., of Marlinton, and she was sponsored by the Edray Extension Homemakers Club.

The Pageant opened with a parade of flags and a dance and march presentation with the girls in white wearing Uncle Sam hats. Eugene Simmons was master of ceremonies. Linda Barker Hendrickson, a former Miss Pocahontas, entertained at the piano and with a vocal solo, accompanied by Houston Simmons on the drums. B. J. Estilow and Doris Hungerbuhler also provided musical entertainment.

Helen Kollison was chairman of the Pageant Committee and she was assisted by Ruth Taylor, Nora Workman, Donna Dunbrack, Dreama Burns, Frances Buzzard, Eugene Simmons, Doug Dunbrack,

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - JULY 15, 1976-

Results of '76

**Horseshoe Pitching Contest -
Singles**

Champion—Jerry
Wykle, Frankford.

Runner-up—Benny Hol-
comb, Craigsville (Holcomb
was the Champion last
year)

There were 18 entries in
the singles matches.

Doubles

Champions—Jerry
Wykle and Larry Wykle,
Frankford.

Runner-up—Kyle
Loudermilk and Connie
Loudermilk (man and wife)
Frankford.

There were 10 teams
entered in the doubles.

Winners in the Tobacco
Spitting Contest, new this
year in Pioneer Days, were
(right to left) Ricky Shear-
er, who spat a distance of
18 feet for first place,
Kenneth Shearer second
and Paul McNeill, third.

The American Legion
Post in Marlinton sponsored
and supervised the Frog
Hop and Turtle Race, pro-
viding the prize money.
Attorney George Daugh-
erty, of Charleston, judged
the races.

Owners of the winning
turtles in the Turtle Race
were Mike Layman, first;
Jeff Hill, Frankford, sec-
ond; Reta Jackson, third;
Pat Jessee, fourth.

Other entrants were:

Winners in the Frog Hop
were owned by Chris Hall,
Charleston, first; Mike Lay-
man, second; Tom Daugh-
erty, Charleston, third;
Brian Layman, fourth.

Other entrants were:

Frog

Brenda Ricottilli, 11, Mar-
linton; Allison Sturm, 9,
Houston, Texas; Danny
Davis, 6 Marlinton; Ann
Hall, 8, Charleston; Carl
Kopf, 12 1/2, Satellite
Beach, Florida; Scott
Emery, 10, Rockville,
Maryland; Jim Layman, 10,
Marlinton; Joe Layman, 4,
Marlinton; Denver Ham-
ons, 6, Marlinton; Steve
VanReenan, 12, Marlinton;
Earl Jordan, 13, Marlinton;
Jeff Davis, 9, Raleigh,
North Carolina.

Turtles

Kathleen Shaw, 9, Mar-
linton; Rick Friel, 8, Mar-
linton; Dawn Workman, 4,
Hillsboro; Holly Hyatt, 8,
Easton, Maryland; Earl
Jordan, 13, Marlinton;
Caroline Sharp, 11, Marlin-
ton; Shawn McCarty, 5,
Gainesville, Virginia; Wil-
liam Hamons, 10, Marlin-
ton; Dorothy Jessee, 7,
Marlinton; Russell Jessee,
12, Marlinton; Chris Jes-
see, 10, Marlinton; Cal
Sharp, 7 1/2, Marlinton;
Denver Hamons, 6, Marlin-
ton; Travis Friel, 7, Hunt-
ersville.

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - JULY 15, 1976-

Pioneer Parade

Class I

Pioneer Horse and Rider
1st James McComb, Hillsboro.
2nd—Argile Arbogast
3rd Carl Sharp, Marlinton

Class II

Horse or Animal Drawn Conveyances

1st Don Hill
2nd Country Picnic
3rd Derrill Hoke Special

Class III

People Walking Pioneer Costume

1st Teacher and Students—Mary Alice Bowers and Students.
2nd Mrs. Ernest White—Sunshine
3rd Drummer—Spirit of '76—Johnnie Hill.

Class IV

Western Style and Costume

1st Spike
2nd Kathy Harris—Tee Jay Robbie.
3rd Polly Hull—Misty

Class V

Floats on Pioneer Bicentennial Theme

1st Poage Lane Redskins 4-H Club
2nd Dunmore Mountaineers
3rd VFW and Ladies Auxiliary

Class VI

Class VII

Bicycles

1st Bill Hyatt
2nd Caroline Sharp
3rd Cal Sharp
4th Frank Wyatt

Class VIII

Commercial Entries

1st Telephone Company
2nd Eddies Wrecker
3rd Youth Conservation Corps.

Pony Pull 48" and Under

1. Mike McCormick, Sinks Grove.
2. Bill McCormick, Ronceverte.
3. William Middleton, Dryden, Virginia
4. John McClung, Ronceverte.

Pony Pull 48" and Over

1. Danny Olinger, Dryden, Virginia
2. Pat Ayers, Alderson
3. David Deem, Ronceverte
4. Lewis McCormick, Sinks Grove

Horse Pull

1. Ernest Ely, Goochland, Virginia
2. Wayne Moreland, Lothian, Maryland
3. Kirk and Barnes, Marion, Virginia
4. Lawrence Colton, Goochland, Virginia
5. Richard Redifer, Penn Laird, Virginia
6. John Salmon, Goochland Virginia.

Rifle Shooting

1. Phillip Dean, Marlinton
2.
3. Dave Shaw, Marlinton

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - JULY 22, 1976 -

Pioneer Days

Antique Cars

- First Place—Cecil Drennen, Hines—1923 Model T.
 Second—Lewis Flint, Lewisburg—1925 Model T.
 Third—Robert Wharton, Summersville—1929 Model A Roadster, yellow.
 Fourth—Bill Reynolds, Lewisburg—1931 Maroon Model A Coupe.
 Fifth—Howard Johnson, Ronceverte—1929 Model A sedan.

**Pioneer Days
MUSIC**

Old Time Fiddle

1. Bert Dodrill, Richwood
 2. Lloyd Stevens, Charleston
 3rd Bruce Mulsky, Lexington, Virginia

Old Time Banjo

1. O'dell McGuire, Lexington, Virginia
 2. Mike Burns, Lexington, Virginia
 3. Ray Alden, New York City, New York

Bluegrass Band

1. W. Va. Gentlemen, Hurricane
 2. J. H. Loan and The Blueridge Mt. Grass, Staunton, Virginia
 3. Woody Simmons and The U-Piney Mt. Boys, Mill Creek

Bluegrass Banjo

1. Jerry Vance, Hurricane
 2. Lawrence Lawhorne, Staunton, Virginia
 3. Harry McCloud, Marlinton

Old Time Band

1. Collier's Town Night Crawlers, Colliers Town, Virginia
 2. Virginia Creepers String Band, Lexington,

Virginia

3. Woody Simmons and the U-Piney Mt. Boys, Mill Creek.

Singing

1. John Greene, Hurricane
 2. Mary and Phyllis Argenbright, Staunton, Virginia
 3. Virgil Henshaw, Lewisburg.

Miscellaneous

1. James Vance (guitar), Hurricane
 2. Dennis Argenbright (guitar) Staunton, Virginia
 3. Alan Argenbright (mandolin) Staunton, Virginia
 4. Allen Firth (bass) Lexington, Virginia
 5. Scott Nelson and Cally Blake (mouthharp) Lexington, Virginia.

The Gym was crowded with fine handwork and many craftsmen.

There were so many activities it was hard to get to everything—music contest, square dance, horse show, horse pulling, etc.

The final event—the Hymn Sing on Sunday night—was a fitting climax. Everyone was inspired by the singing by the County-wide choir directed by Mrs. Willard Eskridge and the congregational singing, with Rev. Harold Elmore who brought a short message. "America" never sounded so good.

Quilt Show

First—Mrs. Thelma Thompson
Second—Mrs. Ernest White
Third—Mrs. Gladys Wooddell

Afghan

First and Second—Mrs. Wilma Tennant
Third—Mrs. Ruth Beale
Honorable Mention—Debra McCarty

Special Crafts

Antique Luggage Rack—Mrs. Louise Barlow

Flower Show

Potted Plants

First—Geraldine Shina-berry, Begonia
Second—Helen Hefner, Jade Tree

Third—Betty Williams, African Violet

Fresh Flowers

First—Geraldine Shina-berry, Roses
Second—Geraldine Shina-berry, Hydrangea

Artificial or Dried

First—Louise Barnisky
Second—Ruth Ruckman
Third—Ruth Ruckman

Well Done

Marlinton merchants co-operated well with the Pioneer Days celebration. One person who checked around town came up with this list:
Best Window Decorated
and Clerks Dressed

Shraders

Dollar Store
A-Jad's
Mountaineer Food
Treasure Chest
Williams Supply
H-P Store

Window Decorated

People's Store
C. J. Richardson
Curry's Super Market
Harper's Men's Store
Seneca Floral
Wooddell's Jewelry
Clerks
Benwood

Student Art Contest

First—Todd Wilfong, Durbin, Grade 3.
Second—Kathleen Shaw, Marlinton, Grade 3.
Third—Sandra Burner, Durbin Grade 2.

First—Melinda Wilson, Marlinton, Grade 5.
Second—Helen Miller, Marlinton, Grade 5.
Third—Ann Marie del Giudice, Green Bank, Grade 4.

First—Mickie Mullenax, Arbovale.
Second—Kelley Williams, Durbin, Grade 8.
Third—Billy Lambert, Durbin, Grade 7.

Museum

The Pocahontas County Historical Society Museum had over 800 visitors over Pioneer Days which led to the Museum's being very crowded at times. While the vast majority came from Pocahontas County, very often other counties of West Virginia were represented. We also had visitors from far afield as Texas, Hawaii, California, Florida Arkansas and Michigan and even some people visiting the United States from overseas. Since we were unable to admit children under twelve unaccompanied by an adult, we should like to encourage parents of these young people to bring them in to see our collection during the summer vacation. Admission is 50 cents for adults, 25 cents for children 12-18, free to under twelves. We are open every day of the week. The Museum Gift Shop did brisk business over the holidays and we still have a substantial collection of Blenko and Pilgrim glassware, books, stationery, stuffed animals, prints, placemats and other souvenirs. Memberships in the Historical Society may be taken out and renewed at the Museum.

Pioneer Days did end on a sour note for the Society as one item was removed from a picture frame on the second floor on Sunday—fortunately, it was not of major historical importance but the Society would like to have it back. If whoever took it would be good enough to return it—no questions will be asked.

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting on June 8.

The most important item of business the Board transacted at this meeting was to take steps to determine in detail exactly what needs to be done to the various school buildings in the County to bring them up to the standard required by state fire and health regulations. For this purpose the Board retained Architect K. F. Weimer on an hourly rate of approximately \$30 for no more than two days to perform the following duties:

- (1) meet with a representative of the State Fire Marshal to determine all fire regulation deficiencies.
- (2) make an on-site inspection of the structural capacity of all buildings.
- (3) meet with a representative of the Health Department to determine all health regulation deficiencies.
- (4) make recommendations to the Board as to the expenditure of funds to bring the County's school buildings up to fire and health regulation requirements.

The Board agreed to pay Mr. Weimer the following amount for past services rendered since August 1973:

Preparation of Comprehensive Plan—\$11,768.00
 Travel expenses—\$251.78.
 Reproduction cost and postage—\$1,110.24.
 Telephone expense—\$29.94.
 Total \$13,159.96.

Kerth Friel, Director of Maintenance, met with the Board concerning roof work to be done on several schools. He reported that the low bids for materials were as follows: Green Bank Elementary, \$885.11; Hillsboro, \$1902.57; and the Early Childhood Education classroom at Marlinton, \$281.40; total, 3069.08. This work is to be done by the County maintenance staff.

The Board approved the April Financial Report, the May payroll and Treasurer's Report, Investment Report for June 8, a budget transfer, and the payment of various bills.

The Board rescinded its previous action in adopting the Macmillan Math Series for use in grades 1 through 8. This was done as the McMillan texts are not on the state approved list for use in grades 7 and 8. The Board adopted the McMillan books for grades 1 through 6 and the Scott, Foresman and Company Math Series for grades 7 and 8, beginning with the 1976-77 school year.

Permission was granted for James Shearer to attend a Free Service School concerning school bus body maintenance and repair sponsored by the Blue Bird Body Company on June 22.

Approval was given to the request of the Green Bank High School Class of 1926 to erect a small marker at the Green Bank school to commemorate their 50th Anniversary and to mark the site of the old high school.

Approval was given for a summer English class at PCHS for juniors and seniors to be taught by Mrs. Virginia Shafer. Her salary will be paid by the students tuition.

The Board approved paying 1976-77 membership dues to the W. Va. School Board Association in the amount of \$979.17.

Approval was given for the PCHS majorettes to attend the National Majorette Clinic at W. Va. Wesleyan College, July 16-19.

Approval was given for the Marlinton Presbyterian Church to use the Marlinton School cafeteria on July 9 and 10.

The employment of Robert Seaman was extended to 12 months to accommodate his duties as assistant principal, athletic director, assistant football coach, and head track coach at the High School.

The Board accepted the bid of the General Tire Company in Elkins to supply tires and tubes for the 1976-77 school year.

Approval was given for the payment of \$250 to the Southern Regional Research and Training Institute for renewal agreement on the Pocahontas County Policy Manual.

Mrs. Alice Gibson appeared before the Board on behalf of the County Board of Health requesting that the Health Board be allowed to transfer approximately \$650 in unexpended funds in the Health Nurse's travel expenses account to the payment of retirement and social security for the County Health Nurse. This travel money is an item in that portion of the Board of Health's budget that is funded by the Board of Education. The Board of Education approved this request.

The next regular Board meeting will be June 22.

POCAHONTAS TIMES

(Page 2)

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1976

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting June 22.

In the absence of the President, Moffett McNeel, Ernest Shaw was elected president pro-tempore.

The Board approved the requests of the Pioneer Days Committee to use the old Marlinton Graded School lot for a Flea Market and the hallway of the Marlinton Elementary School for a Quilt Display.

The request of Reginald Atkins and James Morgan to use a classroom at the High School this summer for instruction leading to a Novice Class Amateur Radio License was approved.

The Board approved the sale of a 1960 Dodge school bus to the Braxton County Board of Education for \$300.

The following resigna-

tions were accepted:

George Bartell as sixth grade teacher at Marlinton.

Brenda K. Cales as Title I Math teacher at Hillsboro.

Rebecca Ann Fleming as classroom and science teacher at Hillsboro.

Debora Johnson as second grade teacher at Marlinton.

The Board approved the transfer request of Kenneth Nottingham from the High School to Hillsboro to be the Title I Math teacher.

The transfer of Charles Rexrode from Green Bank to the Guidance Counselor position at PCHS was approved.

The Board approved the employment of Curtis Vick as seventh and eighth grade language arts teacher at Hillsboro and Lella Ann Dilley as fourth grade teacher at Durbin.

The Board approved the extension of the employment term of Janice Carter, Secretary at Durbin, from ten to eleven months with additional salary to be paid from Durbin school lunch funds.

The Board approved the request of Elizabeth Helmick to take the Marlinton majorettes to the State Majorette Camp at W. Va. Wesleyan College, July 16-19.

The Board approved certain supplemental appropriations to the school budget for the 75-76 fiscal year as submitted by the Treasurer, Betty Lambert, to be sent to the State Board of School Finance for approval.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, July 13, at 7:30 p. m.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1976

Historic Register

Pocahontas County

Historical Society, Inc.

U.S. Route 219

Marlinton, W. Va. 24954

Gentlemen:

We take great pleasure in informing you that the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has notified us of the entry of Frank and Anna Hunter House (Pocahontas County Museum) in "The National Register of Historic Places."

It is a distinct honor having Frank and Anna Hunter House (Pocahontas County Museum) entered on a list which identifies for the people those properties worthy of preservation for their historic value. Those who made it possible for this site to be brought within the protective inventory of irreplaceable historic resources of West Virginia will take justifiable pride in this recent announcement by the National Park Service.

May we extend our congratulations, and take this opportunity to inform you that an official certificate attesting to this honor will be forwarded under separate cover in the near future.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Davis

State Historic
Preservation Officer

A report on the progress of this project and information on possible markers will be given at the next meeting of the Pocahontas County Historical Society on Monday, June 28.

Two old buildings are coming down in Marlinton. The two story building next to Marlinton Motor Sales was recently purchased by them from Mrs. Paul Overholt. It was built by her father, Paul Golden, probably between 1900-1905, as a warehouse. He bought wool and the big long sacks were suspended from the second floor stringers and were filled from the second floor. There used to be a smaller building next to it that was a chicken house and a coal house.

A second building coming down is owned by Marlinton Electric and is next to the Opera House. It formerly was a two-story building but after a fire was made into one story. Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Slaven lived in the apartment upstairs at one time, also Mr. and Mrs. Tilton. The downstairs housed a three-chair barber shop for many years. Paul Gladwell was a barber there and remembers Bill Long, "Cotton" Roberts, Frank Moore, Elmer Palmer, and Clyde Evans as being other barbers who worked there. He thinks the barber shop closed about 1940.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1976

PCRS Commencement

The Sixth Annual Commencement Exercises of Pocahontas County High School will be held Friday night, May 23, 1976, at 8:00 in the school gymnasium. The program will be conducted by students from the top ten per cent of the graduating class. Remarks will be made by J. Moffett McNeel, Jr., President of the Pocahontas County Board of Education, and Dr. James Lannan, Superintendent of Pocahontas County Schools. Diplomas will be given out by Dr. Lannan, assisted by Kenneth E. Vance, Principal of Pocahontas County High School, and Robert Seaman, assistant principal of Pocahontas County High School. Music will be provided by Mrs. Frances Eskridge. The public is invited to attend.

Members of the Senior Class

Thomas Allen Arbogast
Bonnie Auldridge
Samuel Price Barlow II
Frank Lucy Barrett, Jr.
Allison L. Becker
Jeffrey Allen Bennett
Sandra Katrina Woods
Beverage
Loretta Sue Rexrode
Blankenship
Adam Charles Bond
Thomas W. Boothe
Diana Grace Buchanan
Kathleen Elaine Burks
Denise Alma Cain
Sherry Dale Calhoun
Eugene R. Carpenter
Curtis Bruce Carr
Karen Jean Cauley
Virginia Lee Cloonan
Douglas Martin Colaw
Anita Susan Crist
Gregory O. Curry
James Edward Cutlip

Mary Elizabeth Curry
Dilley
Lewis Michael Dunbrack
John William Evans
Kitty Jena Galford
Lee G. Good
Debra C. Grimes
Emery Glimmer Grimes
Erma Louise Grimes
Rebecca Jo Grimes
Alfred Renick Gum, Jr.
Donald C. Gum II
Marilynn Elizabeth Gum
Richard B. Harper
Stephen Dale Hefner
Dick Richard Hickman
William Dallas Hill
Larry D. Holson
Marshall Allan Hoover
Norma Jean Irvine
Anetta Johnston
David R. Jones
Karen Lynn Kellison
Susan Jane Kershner
Paul Allen Kesler, Jr.
Kris Douglas Kuhlken
Sally Lynn Lambert
Mary Ann Lightner
Fredrick Dale Long
Geraldine Patsy Masco
Debra Jean Martin
Elizabeth C. Martin
Faye Ellen Matheny
Steve McCarty
Robert C. McClure
Steven Victor McCoy
Carolyn S. McLaughlin
Estelle Cook McLaughlin
Michael Smith McLaughlin
Patrick Smith McLaughlin
Joseph Alan McMillion
Georgia McNeill
Randolph Curtis McPeters
Janice Carlene Millican
Gary W. Moats
Gloria Elaine Moats
Sherry Lee Wyatt Moore
Forrest L. Mullenax
Christopher P. Mullenax
Randall Kenneth Nottingham
Larry G. Offutt
Mary Jane Oref
Donald L. Pritt

John David Puffenbarger
Kathy Lynn Richmond
Janet Lee Rosencrance
Jimmie Arlie Ryder, Jr.
Mildred Carol Ryder
Debra A. Scott
Karen Elizabeth Scott
George Daniel Sewell
Debbie Lynn Sharp
James William Sharp
Leona Faye Sharp
Jeffrey L. Shaw
Annette Cheryl Shifflett
Linda E. Shue
Diana L. Simmons
Janie Lusk Siaven
David A. Stanley
Christine Rosalita Taylor
Gary Wayne Taylor
Mary Kathryn Taylor
Rachel Elizabeth Taylor
Bradley Allen Thomas
George Lee Thomas
Paula Jean Phillips Thomas
Kennison A. Thompson, Jr.
Frischella Jean Tinscher
John Joseph Totten
Michael L. Totten
Sandra E. Triplett
Edward Lee Turner
Mary Ann Johnston
Vanderender
Teresa Lynn VanReenen
Debra L. Varela
Alberta Esther Varner
Harrison Eugene Varner
John Freeman Walker
Jeffrey Douglas Welford
Charles Albert Wiffong
Janetta Irene Williams
Alan Todd Wright
Emma L. Young

Top Ten Percent
National Honor Society

Add,
David Lee Buzzard
Patricia Varner Mallow

Golden Horseshoe Winners

Highest Scorers on the
Pocahontas County West
Virginia Golden Horseshoe
test are:

Greg Friel

Layton Beverage

Anne Burns

Vera Wade

They are all students in
Marlinton Elementary
School.

Greg Friel is the son of
Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Friel.

Layton Beverage is the
son of Mr. and Mrs. Layton
Beverage.

Anne Burns is the daugh-
ter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred
Burns, Jr.

Vera Wade is the daugh-
ter of Mr. and Mrs. Camie
Wade.

These students will go to
Charleston this Friday,
May 21, to be dubbed
Knights and Ladies of the
Golden Horseshoe by the
State Superintendent of
Schools, Daniel B. Taylor.

In a morning assembly
they will be addressed by
Governor Moore, William
Brotherton, president of
the Senate, and Lewis Mc-
Manus, speaker of the
House, and Superintendent
Taylor. They will meet
members of the Board of
Public Works.

The Golden Horseshoe
Ceremony, which began in
1930, is a climax of West
Virginia studies, including
history, geography, indus-
try, geology, flora and
fauna, natural resources,
and government. The tests
are prepared and scored by
the State Department of
Education.

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting on May 11. If Fred Burns, Jr. and Doug Dunbrack met with the Board to request the use of the Marlinton Athletic Field June 7-12 or June 14-19 for a carnival sponsored by the Marlinton Fire Department. This request was approved.

The Board approved the following school excursions using private transportation:

Hillsboro second grade to the Edrey Fish Hatchery and Edrey Community Center for field trip and class picnic on May 27.

A sheep shearing school on May 13 and 16.

High School Forestry and Building Maintenance classes to visit Westview, Gauley Woodland timber operations on May 12.

High School Forestry class to visit the Westview paper mill at Covington on May 13.

Hillsboro fifth grade to have field trip to Cranberry Glades on May 18.

Marlinton Eighth Grades to Wagon State Park for a class trip on June 2.

Marlinton Kindergarten to Foodland for a field trip on May 13 and 18.

The Board approved the use of school buses for the following trips: Special Education students from PCHS to the W. Va. Special Olympics in Parkersburg on June 4 and 5.

Senior Class at the High School to the Observatory for a senior class picnic on May 25 or 26.

The Board approved the use of school buses to transport campers to and from a Youth Opportunity Camp to be held in June at the 4-H Camp at Thornwood.

The request of the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Women to use the Hillsboro cafeteria on May 29 for the Alumni Banquet was approved.

The Board accepted an office machine service contract for PCHS submitted by Brewer Office Equipment Company of Lewisburg.

Approval was given for the use of three buses, drivers, and folding chairs by the National Youth Science Camp, June 27 through July 19.

The Board approved the use of two buses and drivers for the Scenic River Cleanup Campaign this summer.

The request for the use of the minibus to transport students to the High School for the Summer Driver Education Program was approved.

Miss Rebecca Ann Fleming was employed as a science teacher at Hillsboro Elementary School for the 1976-77 school year.

Harry Hoob was employed as Physical Education teacher at Marlinton Elementary School for the 1976-77 school year.

Mrs. Donna Barksdale was transferred from teaching the first grade at Marlinton to Title I Reading Specialist. This is a new position and is designed as a corrective program. Mrs. Barksdale will diagnose reading problems and sug-

gest teaching methods to be used by the classroom teacher to overcome these problems. She will be working in the Title I schools—Durbin, Marlinton and Hillsboro.

Miss Laurel Puleo was employed as First Grade teacher at Marlinton Elementary school for the 1976-77 school term.

The resignation of Miss Wanda Wimer, Title I Speech therapist, at the end of the 1975-76 school year was accepted. Miss Wimer resigned to attend graduate school.

Mrs. Yvonne Lannan was employed as Librarian at Marlinton Elementary School for the 1976-77 term.

The employment period of Mrs. Louise Barnisky, Marlinton School Cafeteria Manager, was extended to eleven months.

Miss Deborah Faulkner was employed as a substitute teacher for the 1976-77 school term.

Approval was given for the use of various Marlinton School facilities during Pioneer Days, July 9-10.

Moffett McNeel was chosen to represent the Board at the graduation ceremonies at the High School on May 28.

May 28 was set as the day for the Eighth Grade students to go to the High School to register for the Ninth Grade.

The Board reviewed the bids received for the construction of a wing to the vocational building of the High School to house the Drafting and Nurses Aide programs and a separate building to be used as a Maintenance Lab. Two bids were received and had been opened on April 23. Kyle Construction Company, Summersville, bid \$136,951 on the wing and \$27,049 on the lab building while Moss Associates, Harrisonburg, Virginia, bid \$126,834 and \$33,425; with only \$146,000 available for the project, to both build and equip these new facilities, both bids were too high. The matter was turned over to the Vocational Education Advisory Committee, consisting of G. M. Peery, David Smith, James Lannan, Moffett McNeel, Kenneth Vance, and Tony Hamed, for their consideration. This committee recommended to the Board that the Maintenance Lab part of the program be eliminated and that the Board's architect, K. F. Weimer, negotiate with the two bidders to attempt to bring the price on the Vocational Wing to \$124,000, so \$22,000 will be left for equipment. The Board approved this recommendation.

The Board approved the April payroll in the amount of \$174,783.27.

The next regular Board meeting will be on May 25.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1976

Open Letter to the People of Pocahontas County

I am writing this letter
three days after the election
and I still cannot believe
that 65% or 2163 of the
voters of Pocahontas Coun-
ty voted against the safety
and health of the 1486
children who attend the
elementary schools of the
county. I suppose most of
the people who voted a-
gainst the issue did not
attend the public meetings
and do not realize that the
present schools are unsafe.

Many of these elementa-
ry children are sitting in
classrooms under plaster
ceilings attached to wooden
slats which have been
hanging there more than
fifty years. Periodically
areas as large as ten feet
square fall from these ceil-
ings, knocking large holes
in the school furniture.
Fortunately, so far, there
have been no children sit-
ting under the areas where
plaster has fallen. If they
had been, their heads could
have been split wide open,
because these pieces of
plaster are usually one and
a half inches thick and do
not fall flat as one might
suppose, but turn to fall on
their edges.

In my twenty-three years
as principal at Hillsboro, I
know of three attempts at
arson in those buildings.
One fire, of undetermined
origin, in a classroom on
Sunday was caught by an
alert custodian, and extin-
guished by the Hillsboro
Volunteer Fire Department
in time to save the old

Hillsboro Elementary
School. I also saw the old
Bus Garage at Hillsboro
burn flat to the ground
within fifteen minutes. One
school bus was burned and
two bus drivers barely es-
caped with their lives. I also
witnessed the two fires at
the Board of Education
Building and at the old
Marlinton High School.
Most people do not realize
how rapidly these fires can
spread nor the intense heat
that can be generated
which will ignite any com-
bustible materials in the
building.

The 1975-76 fire mar-
shal's report lists 94 viola-
tions in the county schools.
These include inadequate
and unsafe fire exits, com-
bustible wooden and glass
classroom doors which
must be replaced with fire-
resistant doors, and electri-
cal wiring which does not
meet the National Code.
Also, among the require-
ments are installation of
escape routes from all sec-
ond and third story class-
rooms. The chances are
good that if a fire occurred
in any of the present build-
ings, during school hours,
the loss of life from smoke
inhalation or fire could be
catastrophic.

We are fortunate to have
been born Americans. But
what brought our great
country into existence and
made it the envy of most
other countries in the
World? One of Thomas

Jefferson's persistent ideas was that education of all the people participating in a democracy would bring about greatness for our country. Our forefathers in Pocahontas County believed in education. How right they all were! Education has made our country great.

Some of the people long for the "good old days" of one room schools, which weren't so good when one thinks about them. I attended a two room school which dwindled to a one room school before I finished the eighth grade at Minnehaha Springs. I also taught one room schools for three years. Each of them had outside toilets, Brunside stoves, and no running water. I have seen children who walked three miles to school on very cold mornings come in crying because their feet were nearly frozen. The treatment was to put their feet in a pan of cold water, which felt warm to the feet, until they thawed and didn't hurt anymore. There are many good things to say about the one room schools; among them are that discipline at school usually meant discipline at home, teachers were respected and usually invited to the home for meals or to spend the night, parents were determined that their children were to receive the education that they themselves were unable to attain. The people that built these one room schools and

the presently occupied schools at Hillsboro, Marlinton, Green Bank, and Durbin had to sacrifice in order to get them. They had no automobiles, no indoor plumbing, no television, no radio, nor central heating; all are considered almost essential in most present day Pocahontas County homes. Their taxes were certainly more percentage-wise than the pittance asked in the recent election.

I am not advocating a return to the one room school, they are gone forever, but the recent election shows that we have lost something that we have got to get back. Something that I thought we had; such as pride in our school system, a determination that our children have a better education that we had, and that they have opportunities for educational advancement equal to or better than other counties in the state. Our surrounding counties of Greenbrier, Nicholas, Webster, and Randolph have passed bond issues similar to the one just defeated. Don't the children of Pocahontas County deserve the same opportunities as other counties?

I publicly urge the Pocahontas County Board of Education to call a special election and resubmit the issue as soon as practical. In the meantime, perhaps the 1163 people who voted for the bond issue can

convince the others that the need is urgent. Let us not wait until tragedy strikes.

Charles Moore
Former teacher, principal,
and superintendent of
schools, Pocahontas
County

POCAHONTAS TIMES

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, APR. 29, 1976

Early Settlers

Sam Hill has compiled the following list of the early settlers of Pocahontas County from the pages of Rev. W. T. Price's book, "Historical Sketches of Pocahontas County." The page number follows each name.

Adam Arbogast, 122; William Auldridge, 368; Col. John Baxter, 59; Henry Baker, 463; John Beard, 548; Josiah Beard, 343; John Bradshaw, 506; James & John Bridger, 558; David Bright, 642; Joseph Brown, 363; John Bruffey, 117; Joshua Buckley, 211; John Burgess, 351; Abram Burner, 425; Reuben Bussard, 638; Valentine Cackley, 197; James Callison, 435; Lewis Canaan, 565; Michael Clerk, 379; William Clendenen, 155; John Cochran, 155; Thomas Cochran, 422; John Collins, 412; John Conrad, 397; Joseph & Andrew Crouch, 665; Michael Daugherty, 400; Henry Dille, 298; Charles Lawrence and Thomas Dinnon, 459; Abram Duffield, 451; William Edmiston, 439; John Ewing, 612; John Flemmens, 274; Jeremiah Friel, 175; Thomas Galford, 269; Robert Gay, 128; David Gibson, 195; Felix Grimes, 188; David Hannah, 219; Richard Hill, 116; William Higgins, 273; Ellis Hughes, 108; Peter Ingram, 273; David James, 347; John Jordan, 500; George Kes, 292; Daniel Kurr, 376; Charles & Jacob Kinnison, 149; James Lackey, 567; Peter Lightner, 180; Jacob Martin, 105; Timothy McCarty, 404; Dan McCollam, 229; John McNeal, 135; Thomas McNeill, 381; John Moore, 289; William Moore, 355; Lavi Moore, 284; Moses Moore, 108.

William Nottingham

526; William Poage, 513; Frank Riffe, 507; Stephen Sewell, 104; Jacob Seybert, 140; John Sharp, 213; William Sharp, 331; John Slaven, 144; John Smith, 302; James Tailman, 486; John Warwick, 428; Jacob Warwick, 234; John Webb, 416.

John & William White, 665; Alexander Waddell, 479; Ralph & Stephen Wanless, 455; James Wagh, 336; Samuel Wagh, 338; John Yeager, 442; William Young, 306.

The Pocahontas County Historical Society is hoping to locate the sites of the homes of as many of these and other early Pocahontas County pioneers as possible. Then it is hoped to mark these sites with a suitable marker as one of the County's Bicentennial projects. We hope that the descendants of these pioneers will take an active interest in this project.

If you have any information as to the location of these homes, please send it to Sam Hill, Hillpoint, Hillsboro, W. Va. 24946.

Early Pioneers

Anyone who is a descendant of the early pioneers of Pocahontas County of the Revolutionary Period or anyone who has knowledge of the location of their cabins or homes is asked to write to Sam Hill, Hillpoint, Hillsboro, W. Va. 24946. Mr. Hill is working on a Pocahontas Bicentennial project to mark the locations of the early cabins and farm homes. Some people have given him some information verbally but he would like to have it written. Sometimes verbal details are forgotten.

Add Henry Harper, Page 393.

School Bond Fails

It would be beneficial to give our children reared in Pocahontas County a safe and thorough education. Perhaps we could be more realistic about possibilities. For 6,700 persons to go in debt 2.8 million dollars is quite extravagant and would result in modern schools which are often shoddily built and show the cracks of age in just a few years. Are these old buildings as irreparable as is made out? In Europe 800 year old buildings prevail. Why not pass a School Bond for \$600,000 to repair the existing schools and add to the taxpayers burden the permanent expense of a larger maintenance crew. At this time there are only 2 men to handle all the schools in the county. There need to be at least 5, possibly 6 men, for effective maintenance. Even the best buildings in the world will fall apart if not taken care of.

My mother has been a teacher for 24 years, both in the old schools and in the modern buildings. She says she appreciates the high ceilings in the old classrooms because they reduce the noise factor considerably, allow more air space for the 32 students and teacher.

The general credit market is in a squeeze and it is already too late to go deep in debt. Our existing schools are all right. If the roofs need fixed, let's fix them. If the drains are clogged, let's dig them out. If the chimneys need fixed, let's fix them too. If the fire door needs hinges, let's put hinges on it.

Sincerely,
B. S. Lauster
Bartow

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting on June 8.

The most important item of business the Board transacted at this meeting was to take steps to determine in detail exactly what needs to be done to the various school buildings in the County to bring them up to the standard required by state fire and health regulations. For this purpose the Board retained Architect K. F. Weimer on an hourly rate of approximately \$30 for no more than two days to perform the following duties:

(1) meet with a representative of the State Fire Marshal to determine all fire regulation deficiencies.

(2) make an on-site inspection of the structural capacity of all buildings.

(3) meet with a representative of the Health Department to determine all health regulation deficiencies.

(4) make recommendations to the Board as to the expenditure of funds to bring the County's school buildings up to fire and health regulation requirements.

The Board agreed to pay Mr. Weimer the following amount for past services rendered since August 1973:

Preparation of Comprehensive Plan—\$11,768.00

Travel expenses—\$251.78.

Reproduction cost and postage—\$1,110.24.

Telephone expense—\$29.94.

Total \$13,159.96.

Kerth Friel, Director of Maintenance, met with the Board concerning roof work to be done on several schools. He reported that the low bids for materials were as follows: Green Bank Elementary, \$885.11; Hillsboro, \$1902.57; and the Early Childhood Education classroom at Marlinton, \$281.40; total, 3069.08. This work is to be done by the County maintenance staff.

The Board approved the April Financial Report, the May payroll and Treasurer's Report, Investment Report for June 8, a budget transfer, and the payment of various bills.

The Board rescinded its previous action in adopting the Macmillan Math Series for use in grades 1 through 8. This was done as the McMillan texts are not on the state approved list for use in grades 7 and 8. The Board adopted the McMillan books for grades 1 through 6 and the Scott, Foresman and Company Math Series for grades 7 and 8, beginning with the 1976-77 school year.

Permission was granted for James Shearer to attend a Free Service School concerning school bus body maintenance and repair sponsored by the Blue Bird Body Company on June 22.

Approval was given to

the request of the Green Bank High School Class of 1926 to erect a small marker at the Green Bank school to commemorate their 50th Anniversary and to mark the site of the old high school.

Approval was given for a summer English class at PCHS for juniors and seniors to be taught by Mrs. Virginia Shafer. Her salary will be paid by the students tuition.

The Board approved paying 1976-77 membership dues to the W. Va. School Board Association in the amount of \$979.17.

Approval was given for the PCHS majorettes to attend the National Majorette Clinic at W. Va. Wesleyan College, July 16-19.

Approval was given for the Marlinton Presbyterian Church to use the Marlinton School cafeteria on July 9 and 10.

The employment of Robert Seaman was extended to 12 months to accommodate his duties as assistant principal, athletic director, assistant football coach, and head track coach at the High School.

The Board accepted the bid of the General Tire Company in Elkins to supply tires and tubes for the 1976-77 school year.

Approval was given for the payment of \$250 to the Southern Regional Research and Training Institute for renewal agreement on the Pocahontas County Policy Manual.

Mrs. Alice Gibson appeared before the Board on behalf of the County Board of Health requesting that the Health Board be allowed to transfer approximately \$650 in unexpended funds in the Health Nurse's travel expenses account to the payment of retirement and social security for the County Health Nurse. This travel money is an item in that portion of the Board of Health's budget that is funded by the Board of Education. The Board of Education approved this request.

The next regular Board meeting will be June 22.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1976

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting June 22.

In the absence of the President, Moffett McNeel, Ernest Shaw was elected president pro-tempore.

The Board approved the requests of the Pioneer Days Committee to use the old Marlinton Graded School lot for a Flea Market and the hallway of the Marlinton Elementary School for a Quilt Display.

The request of Reginald Atkins and James Morgan to use a classroom at the High School this summer for instruction leading to a Novice Class Amateur Radio License was approved.

The Board approved the sale of a 1960 Dodge school bus to the Braxton County Board of Education for \$300.

The following resigna-

tions were accepted:

George Bartell as sixth grade teacher at Marlinton.

Brenda K. Cales as Title I Math teacher at Hillsboro.

Rebecca Ann Fleming as classroom and science teacher at Hillsboro.

Debora Johnson as second grade teacher at Marlinton.

The Board approved the transfer request of Kenneth Nottingham from the High School to Hillsboro to be the Title I Math teacher.

The transfer of Charles Rexrode from Green Bank to the Guidance Counselor position at PCHS was approved.

The Board approved the employment of Curtis Vick as seventh and eighth grade language arts teacher at Hillsboro and Lella Ann Dilley as fourth grade teacher at Durbin.

The Board approved the extension of the employment term of Janice Carter, Secretary at Durbin, from ten to eleven months with additional salary to be paid from Durbin school lunch funds.

The Board approved the request of Elizabeth Helmick to take the Marlinton majorettes to the State Majorette Camp at W. Va. Wesleyan College, July 16-19.

The Board approved certain supplemental appropriations to the school budget for the 75-76 fiscal year as submitted by the Treasurer, Betty Lambert, to be sent to the State Board of School Finance for approval.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, July 13, at 7:30 p. m.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1976

Board of Education

The Board of Education met for a regular meeting on July 13.

This was an important meeting as the main order of business concerned the fire safety deficiencies of the County's Schools as indicated by the Fire Marshal's office.

Meeting with the Board were Mr. Wayne Lewis, from the Fire Marshal's office, Dr. Doug Machesney from the State Department of Education, and Mr. Haskel Brown, representing the Board's Architect, K. F. Weimer Associates.

Mr. Brown presented to the Board a report he had prepared on the work required to bring the County schools into compliance with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal. This report was prepared following an inspection he and Mr. Lewis made of the schools last month. A summary of this report is given elsewhere in this paper.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Lewis both spoke to the board concerning the fire hazards in the schools. Mr. Lewis made it very clear that the County must set up a compliance plan and that it must be followed. The Fire Marshal will not be unreasonable in the amount of time allowed to complete the work, but sooner or later, buildings that do not comply will be recommended to the State Superintendent of Schools for closure. Mr. Lewis indicated that all work need not be done at once, but the various items can be placed in an order of priority.

Unfortunately, as Mr. Brown pointed out, the items with top priority are the most expensive to complete. The work to be completed first is to provide proper exiting which includes the building of stair towers at all schools and to achieve one hour fire separation ability between the floors in the buildings. Then come proper fire alarm systems and the upgrading of the electrical wiring in all buildings. Following on the priority list come emergency lighting, proper fire doors, hazard separation, emergency windows, upgrading of interior finishes, and the other items on the report. Mr. Brown said that in his opinion the completion of the highest priority items alone will cost almost \$1,000,000.

Dr. Machesney reviewed the Board on the need to have any plan that makes use of the \$1.2 million available to Pocahontas County from the Better School Amendment approved by the State Board of Education. He gave his opinion that the State Board would not approve a modified comprehensive plan for the County unless some new construction was involved. It was also his opinion that there would not be any additional state money for school building construction for a good many years and that a change in the method of supporting schools on the county level by the use of the property tax will not occur in the near future.

David Smith, Vocational Director at the High School, appeared before the Board concerning the new section to the Vocational Building that is now under construction. A decision was needed to be made as to what material to use in a new hallway leading to the new portion. After considering various alternatives, the Board selected terrazzo to match the existing hallways.

The Board employed the following teachers for the 1976-77 school year: Miss Lillie LaVonne Witt as science and self-contained classroom teacher at Hillsboro.

Miss Marilyn Armstrong as second grade teacher at Marlinton.

Mrs. Diane Smith as Early Childhood Education teacher at Marlinton.

Peter Tennant as Fifth Grade teacher at Marlinton.

Miss Kathern Hall as mathematics teacher at Green Bank.

Ben Campbell as social studies teacher at Green Bank.

Mrs. Alice Vance as Sixth Grade teacher at Marlinton.

Miss Jane Cogar as Early Childhood Education teacher at Marlinton. This is a new position and will allow kindergarten students to go full time (4 days) at Marlinton this coming school year.

The Board accepted the resignation of Mrs. Carole Young as Fourth Grade teacher at Green Bank.

The Board approved the transfers of Mrs. Catherine Bartels from Early Childhood Education teacher at Marlinton to the Fourth Grade position at Green Bank and Mrs. Danieth Patton from Green Bank to fill the math vacancy at the High School.

Superintendent Lannan reported to the Board that all teaching positions are presently filled for the

76-77 school year.

The Board approved the employment of James Ryder and James Simmons, Jr., as custodians at the High School.

The Board approved a policy to prevent any discrimination against students or employees in the Pocahontas County Schools on the basis of sex as required by Title IX of the Federal Education Act.

The request of Ancil Schmidt to use the Marlinton cafeteria for a 4-H Fair on August 16-18 was approved.

The Board gave permission for Lee McMann and two students to attend FFA Leadership Conference at Jackson's Mill, July 15-18, and for Dolan Irvine

and two students to attend the State Land Judging Contest on July 16 at Jackson's Mill.

Approval was given for an adult summer driver education class at the high school.

The Board authorized Moffett McNeel to act as "applicant" on behalf of the Board in the requesting of surplus lands from the Observatory adjacent to the Green Bank School.

June Riley was selected to represent the Board on the Regional Education Service Agency Board of Directors.

The Board approved the County Special Education Plan for Fiscal Year 78.

The next Board meeting will be July 27.